

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claims as amended require a specific series of steps for cellular fixation including the addition of 75% ethanol. An updated search found no reference teaching or fairly suggesting such fixation protocol in the context of a nucleic acid detection method requiring PCR.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

/CHRISTOPHER M BABIC/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1637